



PATENT
CUSTOMER NUMBER: 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 3063.0398-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Hao A. Chen et al.)
Continuation Appln. under 35 U.S.C. §1.53(b))
of Application No.: 08/956,022)
Filed: June 29, 2001)
For: SURFACE COVERINGS)
CONTAINING ALUMINUM OXIDE)

PRIOR APPLICATION:

Group Art Unit: 1774

Examiner: M. Dixon

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the above-referenced application.

The copies of the listed documents not provided herewith were previously submitted in prior application, Application No. 08/956,022, filed October 22, 1997, upon which Applicants rely for the benefits provided in 35 U.S.C. § 120. Accordingly, it is not required that copies of these cited documents be provided. 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d).

The following documents, however, were not cited in the Application No. 08/956,022, and thus copies of these documents are provided herewith.

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U.S. Patent No. 5,670,237 to Shultz et al. - the teachings of this document are discussed and incorporated by reference into the present specification. See, page 10, first full paragraph.

U.S. Patent No. 4,983,466 to Witman - does not appear to teach a surface covering comprising aluminum oxide.

U.S. Patent No. 5,091,258 to Moran - is directed to a laminate for safety glazing, specifically to reduce optical defects in a glazing containing such a laminate.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Patent Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

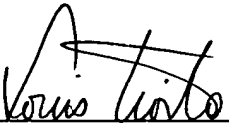
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If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 
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Date: June 29, 2001